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AP English Literature and Composition

Composition: Red Wheelbarrow

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## SKILLS PAGE

**9.3 Passive Voice**

MY SENTENCES: A “barrow” can be interpreted as a handcart or a frame with two short handles at each end used for carrying a load.

The color “red” can be described as the color of blood or the ruby when used as an adjective. The word “red,” when used as a noun, is defined as the color of blood or a ruby. In line three, “red” is used as an adjective referring to the color of the barrow.

The importance of the barrow’s work can be seen in the title.

EXPLANATION: The passive voice should be used sparingly, however the passive voice is useful in situation where the performer of the action is unknown, the performer is wished to be unknown by the author, or the receiver needs to be emphasized rather than the performer. This information can be found on pages 213 and 214 in the *Holt Handbook*.

REVISED EXAMPLES: A “barrow” can be a handcart or a frame with two short handles at each end, used for carrying a load.

The color “red” can be the color of blood or the ruby when used as an adjective. The word “red” is the color of blood or a ruby. In line three, “red” is an adjective referring to the color of the barrow.

The title singles out the importance of the barrow.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: